

RECEIVED  
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

01/19/04 15:23 FAX 262 783 1211

RYAN KROMHOLZ

JAN 20 2004

001/032

RYAN KROMHOLZ & MANION, S.C.

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

OFFICIAL

Daniel D. Ryan  
Joseph A. Kromholz  
John M. Manion  
Laura A. Dable  
Daniel R. Johnson  
Patricia A. Limbach  
Patrick J. Fleis

Telephone: (262) 783-1300  
Facsimile: (262) 783-1211  
Toll Free: (800) 686-9333

Est. 1873

Mailing Address:  
P.O. Box 26618  
Milwaukee, WI 53226-0618

Building Address:  
3360 Gateway Road  
Brookfield, WI 53045

Arnold J. Ericson (Of Counsel)

Coversheet + 30 Page(s)

Date: 19 January 2004

RECIPIENT:

FACSIMILE NUMBER

1. USPTO (Group Art Unit 2837)  
cc: Examiner Wachsmann 703-746-4445

703-872-9306

Regarding: USSN 10/606,009  
Attorney Docket No. 1031.16081-CON

Comments: Attached is a Preliminary Amendment, per our discussion

From: Daniel D. Ryan, Reg. No. 29,243

THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS FACSIMILE MESSAGE IS INTENDED FOR THE PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL USE OF THE DESIGNATED RECIPIENTS NAMED ABOVE. This message may be an attorney-client communication, and as such is privileged and confidential. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient or an agent responsible for delivering it to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that you have received this document in error, and that any review, dissemination, distribution or copying of this message is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us immediately by telephone and return the original message to us by mail. Thank you.

01/19/04 15:23 FAX 262 783 1211

RYAN KROMHOLZ

002/032

Customer No. 26308

**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of: Blumenthal et al.

Attorney Docket No.: 1031.16081-CON

Serial No.: 10/606,009

Examiner: Wachsman

Filed: 25 June 2003

Group Art Unit: 2857

For: Systems and Methods for Controlling the Activity of Carbon in Heat Treating Atmospheres

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RECEIVED**  
**CENTRAL FAX CENTER**

JAN 20 2004

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL**

**OFFICIAL**

1. Transmitted herewith is an amendment for this application.

**STATUS**

2. Applicant is  
☒ a small entity  
☐ other than a small entity.

**CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION VIA TELECOPIER**

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being transmitted to the United States Patent Office, addressed to the attention of the Examiner and Group Art Unit identified, above, by telecopier transmission, on 19 January 2004, telecopier Nos: 703-872-9306 and 703-746-4445

Date: 19 January 2004

Judith Dunaway

Type or print name of person transmitting paper

(Signature of person transmitting paper)

(Amendment Transmittal [9-19] -page 1 of 4)

01/19/04 15:24 FAX 262 783 1211

RYAN KROMHOLZ

**RECEIVED**  
**CENTRAL FAX CENTER**

006/032

JAN 20 2004

**OFFICIAL**

Customer No.: 26308

Patent

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Blumenthal et al.

Attorney Docket No. 1031.16081-CON

Serial No.: 10/606,009

Examiner: Wachsman

Filed: 25 June 2003

Group Art Unit: 2857

Title: Systems and Methods for Controlling the Activity of Carbon in Heat Treating  
Atmospheres

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT A**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

Please amend the application prior to examining the case, as follows: